## REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action[1] mailed June 4, 2004. Claims 1-16 were presented for examination and were rejected. Claims 1, 3-8, and 10-16 are amended. Support for the amendments can be found in the application as filed. No claims are canceled. No claims are added. Thus, claims 1-16 are pending. Applicant hereby amends the specification to insert previously unknown serial numbers for related patent applications; no new matter is added.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2004/0034700 A1 to Polcyn ("Polcyn"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections (and the statements by the Examiner in support of the rejections) for the following reasons.

Polcyn describes a system that "integrates a typical voice mail and call processing system, or other communication system application, with a PC or LAN based application, such as an electronic calendar." (Polcyn, ¶ 34.) The system includes a "translator" that "extract[s] user information from database 101 and provid[es] that information to a communication system database" through a "subscriber database management program." (Id., ¶ 38.) The communications system database is described as storing a "routing table" in which "particular devices to which calls should be forwarded are associated with specific blocks of time." (Id., ¶ 58.) This routing table may be updated "automatically when the PC based calendar application is updated." (Id., ¶ 60.) As described in Polcyn:

> A user may be permitted to indicate a specific location or phone number to which to direct a call. A particular alpha sequence, "#G" for example, followed by location or phone number information could be utilized to override default information such as that provided in routing table 112.

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[1] The Office Action may contain a number of statements characterizing the cited references and/or the claims which Applicants may not expressly identify herein. Regardless of whether or not any of those statements is identified herein, Applicants do not automatically subscribe to, or acquiesce in, any of those statements.

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Accordingly, a user could directly plug a telephone number into the text of the electronic calendar, i.e., "#G 555-1212," and the communication system would then route calls to that particular phone number during the associated period of time. (Id., ¶ 65.)

Notably absent from the system described in Polcyn, however, is any discussion of a call forwarding pattern applicable to a time period that includes a source identifier, a destination identifier and a forwarding destination identifier.

In contrast, independent claim 1 recites a method including:

receiving, via the data network, at least one pattern for forwarding communications in the voice network and applicable to a time period, the at least one pattern including a source identifier, a destination number and a forwarding destination identifier;
storing the at least one pattern in a calendar; and
configuring the voice network based on the at least one pattern and the time period.

Independent claim 14 recites a computer readable medium comprising computer program code capable of configuring a device to perform a similar method.

Independent claim 8 likewise recites an apparatus that includes:

means for receiving, via the data network, at least one pattern for forwarding communications in the voice network and applicable to a time period, the at least one pattern including a source identifier, a destination number and a forwarding destination identifier;
means for storing the at least one pattern in a calendar; and
means for configuring the voice network based on the at least one pattern and the time period.

Polcyn neither teaches nor suggests all of the elements of claims 1, 8 and 14. For example, as noted above, Polcyn neither teaches nor suggests receiving, via a data network, at least one pattern for forwarding communications in a voice network and applicable to a time period, the at least one pattern including a source identifier, a destination number and a forwarding destination identifier (or computer program code to configure a device to perform such receiving, or any means for such receiving). For at least this reason, Applicant believes claims 1, 8 and 14 are not anticipated by Polcyn, and therefore Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of claims 1, 8 and 14. As claims 2-4 are dependent from claim 1, and therefore include

all of the limitations of claim 1, Applicant believes claims 2-4 to be patentable over Polcyn for at least the same reasons as claim 1. As claims 9-11 are dependent from claim 8, and therefore include all of the limitations of claim 8, Applicant believes claims 9-11 to be patentable over Polcyn for at least the same reasons as claim 8. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner also withdraw the rejections as to claims 2-4 and 9-11.

Next, independent claim 5 recites a method that includes:

> providing a calendar-based form over a data network, including a plurality of time periods;
> receiving, in the calendar-based form, pattern information identifying a pattern for forwarding communications in a voice network, the pattern information including a source Identifier, a destination identifier and a destination forwarding identifier;
> storing the pattern information in a database system; and
> determining at least one of the plurality of time periods that the pattern is in effect.

Independent claim 15 recites a computer readable medium comprising computer program code capable of configuring a device to perform a similar method.

Independent claim 12 likewise recites an apparatus that includes:

> means for providing a calendar-based form over a data network, including a plurality of time periods;
> means for receiving, in the calendar-based form, pattern information identifying a pattern for forwarding communications in a voice network, the pattern information including a source identifier, a destination identifier and a destination forwarding identifier;
> means for storing the pattern information in a database system; and
> means for determining at least one of the plurality of time periods that the pattern is in effect.

Polcyn neither teaches nor suggests all of the elements of claims 5, 12 and 15. For example, Polcyn neither teaches nor suggests receiving, in a calendar-based form, pattern information identifying a pattern for forwarding communications in a voice network, the pattern information including a source identifier, a destination identifier and a destination forwarding identifier (or computer program code to configure a device to perform such receiving, or any means for such receiving). For at least this reason, Applicant believes claims 5, 12 and 15 are not anticipated by Polcyn, and therefore

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Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of claims 5, 12 and 15. As claim 6 is dependent from claim 5, and therefore includes all of the limitations of claim 5, Applicant believes claim 6 to be patentable over Polcyn for at least the same reasons as claim 5. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection as to claim 6 as well.

Next, independent claim 7 recites a method that includes:

receiving, via a data network, pattern information indicating a pattern for forwarding communications in a time period of a calendar, the pattern information including a source identifier, a destination identifier and a forwarding destination identifier;
storing the pattern information;
receiving a communications request associated with the source identifier and directed to the destination identifier;
forwarding the communications request to the forwarding destination identifier based on the time period, the destination identifier and the source identifier.

Independent claim 16 recites a computer readable medium comprising computer program code capable of configuring a device to perform a similar method.

Independent claim 13 likewise recites an apparatus that includes:

means for receiving, via a data network, pattern information indicating a pattern for forwarding communications in a time period of a calendar, the pattern information including a source identifier, a destination identifier and a forwarding destination identifier;
means for storing the pattern information;
means for receiving a communications request associated with the source identifier and directed to the destination identifier;
means for forwarding the communications request to the forwarding destination identifier based on the time period, the destination identifier and the source identifier.

Polcyn neither teaches nor suggests all of the elements of claims 7, 13 and 16. For example, Polcyn neither teaches nor suggests receiving, via a data network, pattern information indicating a pattern for forwarding communications in a time period of a calendar, the pattern information including a source identifier, a destination identifier and a forwarding destination identifier (or computer program code to configure a device to perform such receiving, or any means for such receiving). For at least this reason,
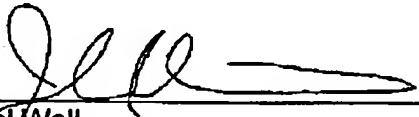
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Applicant believes claims 7, 13 and 16 are not anticipated by Polcyn, and therefore
Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of claims 7, 13
and 16.

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## CONCLUSION

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Examiner pass this application to issue. If there are any outstanding issues which the Examiner believes need to be resolved to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative by phone at the number indicated below to discuss such issues. To the extent necessary, a petition for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made, the fee for which should be charged to patent office deposit account 07-2347.

Respectfully submitted,

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